

2017-2018 LSTA Annual Program Plan

Important Dates	
Early September 2016	Annual Program Plan posted Grant guidelines and application information posted Letter of Intent guidelines and application posted NC Cardinal Migration* application posted
November 1, 2016	Letters of Intent due NC Cardinal applications due
December 15, 2016	Letter of Intent and NC Cardinal applicants notified
February 24, 2017	Applications Due
June 8, 2017	Grant awards announced

Pitch an Idea

Libraries are invited to apply for funding that supports a program or service idea that will solve a specific problem or meet an identified need of the library's current or future users. Grant categories have been eliminated this year, allowing libraries to focus on meeting their users' needs by developing a project that has a beginning, a series of activities spread out over the funding period, an end, and an evaluation that measures how well the goals were met. This change provides an opportunity for libraries to identify one of the goals from North Carolina's LSTA Five Year Plan that the project will address and "Pitch an Idea" in a new application format.

Libraries that may apply for LSTA funds are eligible North Carolina public libraries, community college libraries, UNC system libraries, and private academic libraries (NCICU). Eligible partners include school libraries, other libraries, and non-library organizations.

EZ Grants are for single year projects. The **minimum** that may be requested is \$5,000; the **maximum** is \$50,000.

Project Grants have a two-step process requiring 1) a preliminary Letter of Intent (LOI) and 2) a full application after the LOI is approved. These grants are for more complex projects that may be single or multi-year and are funded at a higher level than EZ Grants. The **minimum** that may be requested for a Project Grant is \$50,000; the **maximum** is \$100,000 for single year projects and \$150,000 per year for multi-year projects.

All grants require matching funds of 25%, or 10% with an eligible partner.

The State Library of North Carolina's *Library Services and Technology Act Five-Year Plan for 2013-2017* contains four goals. Each goal is based on identified need, strives toward excellence and equity in North Carolina's libraries, and is related to one or more of the eight LSTA purposes.

- 1. Partnerships and Collaboration** – North Carolina libraries will partner with each other, with businesses, and with other organizations to extend their reach and enhance their capacity.
- 2. Continuing Education** – North Carolina library staff will have the necessary planning and learning opportunities that enable them to provide exceptional library programs, services, and resources.
- 3. Literacy and Lifelong Learning** – North Carolina libraries will equip users for success in life, school, and work through library programs and services that support literacy and lifelong learning.
- 4. Access, Digitization, and Preservation** – North Carolina libraries will expand access to information resources by strengthening, sharing, digitizing and preserving our valuable and unique collections.

For more information, go to <<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/grants/lsta.html>>.

*NC Cardinal Migration Grants are available to eligible public libraries; for more information about NC Cardinal, go to <<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.libguides.com/thenest>>.